



CRITICAL RACE THEORY: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

According to Critical Race Theory (CRT) advocates, Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream that his children would "one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character" is a "dangerous" idea that needs to be opposed.¹ Proponents of CRT are working to insert a racist and dangerous, anti-American worldview into every American institution.

Critical Theory, the intellectual foundation of CRT, is a theory developed from the writings of Karl Marx who taught that the central feature of society is a power struggle, a conflict between the oppressed and the oppressor.² It is a deliberate rejection of all western norms and traditions.³

CRT expands critical theory by framing the power struggle as one between races, with minorities as the oppressed and white people as the oppressors.⁴ Unlike MLK, CRT advocates believe that everyone should be judged by the color of their skin, not "the content of their character."

WHAT CRT IS:

- CRT proponents claim that America is systemically racist.⁵ CRT teacher Derrick Bell explains that "whites" often created policies that "sacrifice the rights of blacks."⁶
- Therefore, CRT supporters oppose the rule of law because, as they claim, the law "systematically privileges subjects who are white," while ignoring the reality that the law aims to create a just and peaceful society for all.⁷
- CRT advocates also call for eliminating capitalism, marriage, traditional family structures, religion, and a republican form of government, which they believe promote white supremacy.⁸

WHAT CRT IS NOT:

- CRT is not an honorable revamp of the Civil Rights movement.
 - As noted earlier, proponents of CRT say the goal of the Civil Rights movement to treat people equally, regardless of race, is "dangerous".⁹
- CRT is not about knowledge or healing. Instead, it is about state-sanctioned racism.¹⁰
- CRT is not a call to treat everyone equally.
 - Ibram X. Kendi, a CRT influencer, calls for a different kind of discrimination saying, "The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination."¹¹

Critical Race Theory, despite its name, is a racist, damaging ideology that is antithetical to the America ideals of freedom and equality. Any ideology showing discrimination based on skin color should be condemned by Americans of all races. America continues to make progress in living up to the ideals of our Founding that, "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."¹² Americans should continue working to this end without using the harmful framework of CRT.¹³

Tragically, CRT is becoming accepted dogma in our schools, businesses, military, governments, and culture.

- For instance, the U.S. Navy published their list of summer reading books available for free including *How to be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram Kendi, a CRT leader and teacher.¹⁴
- In San Jose, California, 3rd graders were asked to deconstruct their racial identities and rank their “power and privilege” as a part of math class.¹⁵ Meanwhile, in Seattle Public Schools, teachers were instructed during training that America is a “race-based white-supremist society” and white teacher should acknowledge and deny their privilege.¹⁶ Also, in Loudoun County, Virginia, parents have created advocacy groups and attended school board meetings decrying CRT.¹⁷
- The Biden Administration has made the way for federal employee training to include CRT indoctrination. President Trump signed Executive Order 13950 on September 22, 2020, which would prohibit any federal workforce training from teaching any anti-American race and sex stereotyping ideology like CRT.¹⁸ However, on January 20, 2021, President Biden revoked the order.¹⁹
- The National Education Association (NEA), the nation’s largest union, approved a plan to promote CRT in K-12 curriculum. The plan includes a promise to have a national day of action to “teach lessons about structural racism and oppression.”²⁰
- At an elementary school in Manchester, Connecticut, teacher Jennifer Tafuto resigned after she was required to teach students to identify literature characters based on the color of their skin rather than by their names. She was also asked during teaching training to reflect on the racial aspects of daily activities like brushing teeth.²¹
- The U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted a resolution in September 2021 stating, “the nation’s mayors support the implementation of CRT in public education curriculum.”²²
- At Wake County Public Schools in North Carolina, teachers were counseled to evaluate the “norms of whiteness” in their schools and pursue a “transformative” restructuring of schools.²³

Congress should work to prevent our country from being destroyed along racial lines by an ideology that is inconsistent with reality. Republicans have introduced bills including H.R. 3163, the Combatting Racist Teaching in School (CRT) Act, H.R. 3134, the Combatting Racist Training in the Military Act, H.R. 3179, the Stop CRT Act, and H.Res. 397, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that CRT serves as a prejudicial ideological tool. Additionally, Congress is working to restate Executive Order 13950 with H.R. 3235, To restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950 and H.R. 3249, To codify the policy of Executive Order 13950. Each of these bills seek to rid our schools, military, and federal employee trainings of this destructive theory.

Publ. August 21, 2021

¹ “‘I have a Dream’ Speech, In Its Entirety.” National Public Radio. January 18, 2010. <https://www.npr.org/2010/01/18/122701268/i-have-a-dream-speech-in-its-entirety> and Eden, Max. “Ban Critical Race Theory Now.” *American Enterprise Institute*. May 5, 2021. https://www.aei.org/op-eds/ban-critical-race-theory-now/?mkt_tok=NDc1LVBCUS05NzEAAAF9HfsbiUQFo9dvN-gdocdr7tB4FzPBiAaYYxh9x-36iEbl5DDxViCU7vF3BEAk3658enMBCX2chgJMBv9BIbyu2K4ebSlhGtukJX0he1MvD_B

² Gonzalez, Mike and Butcher, Jonathan. “State Education Officials Must Restore a Sense of National Character in Public Schools.” The Heritage Foundation. April 22, 2021. <https://www.heritage.org/education/report/state-education-officials-must-restore-sense-national-character-public-schools>

³ Burke, Lindsey and Gonzalez, Mike. “To Tackle Critical Theory in the K-12 Classroom, Start with Colleges of Education.” The Heritage Foundation. October 7, 2020. <https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/tackle-critical-theory-the-k-12-classroom-start-colleges-education>

⁴ Rufo, Christopher. “Critical Race Theory Would Not Solve Racial Inequality: It Would Deepen It.” The Heritage Foundation. March 23, 2021. <https://www.heritage.org/progressivism/report/critical-race-theory-would-not-solve-racial-inequality-it-would-deepen-it>

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- ⁸ "Primer: Ending State-Sanctioned Racism." Center for Renewing America. May 5, 2021. <https://americarenewing.com/issues/one-pager-ending-state-sanctioned-racism/>
- ⁹ Eden, Max. "Ban Critical Race Theory Now." *American Enterprise Institute*. May 5, 2021. https://www.aei.org/op-eds/ban-critical-race-theory-now/?mkt_tok=NDc1LVBCUS05NzEAAAF9HfsbiUQFo9dvN-gdocdr7tB4FzPBiAaYYxh9x-36iEbIi5DDxViCU7vF3BEAk3658enMBCX2chgJMBv9BIbyu2K4ebSlhGtukJX0he1MvD_B
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